

Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency
Fiscal Note

HF 216 – Motor Vehicle Regulation (LSB 2384 HV)

Analyst: Mary Beth Mellick (Phone: (515) 281-8223) (marybeth.mellick@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 216 makes numerous technical changes relating to the Department of Transportation, including but not limited to the following:

- Allows ex-prisoner of war special license plates to be issued to the owner of a motor vehicle who was a prisoner of war during any time of military conflict, rather than during a specific war or conflict.
- Provides that a parent, legal guardian, or other adult traveling with a child in a taxicab, who does not have the child properly restrained, will be cited for violating child restraint requirements.
- Requires a \$10.00 one-time fee for a school bus endorsement for a driver's license.
- Allows for taxicabs and buses to receive fuel tax reimbursements when transportation services are provided, pursuant to a service contract, for public and non-public schools, and for hospitals and non-profit entities that are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Bill also limits those eligible for such reimbursements to taxicabs and buses.
- Requires the Legislative Council to establish a special minor's license interim committee to review certain provisions relating to special minor's school licenses.

Assumptions

1. The number of additional ex-prisoner of war special plates that will be issued is unknown. There is no fee for the plate, and the Department estimates costs associated with making additional plates to be minimal.
2. There are currently 10,142 school bus drivers in Iowa. Federal law requires that all school bus drivers receive a school bus endorsement by September 30, 2005.
3. A school bus endorsement consists of a knowledge test and driving test at a cost of \$5.00 each. A driver who does not currently possess a passenger endorsement would be required to take both tests. A driver who possesses a passenger endorsement and passed a school bus driving test would be required to take the knowledge test only. A person who has a passenger endorsement and passed a driving test based on driving a vehicle other than a school bus will be required to take the driving test in addition to the knowledge test. The one-time fee for the endorsement will be \$10.00, regardless of whether the driver takes the driving test, knowledge test, or both.
4. The number of schools that will pay the school bus endorsement fee or will reimburse the driver for the fee is unknown. It is estimated that at least 90.0% of drivers will pay the fee and will not be reimbursed.

Correctional Impact

The number of citations that will be issued for improper restraint of a child in a taxicab is unknown, but is anticipated to be minimal.

Fiscal Impact

School Bus Endorsement

The estimated fiscal impact is an increase of between \$90,000 and \$100,000 to the Road Use Tax Fund in FY 2006. Programming costs associated with the Department adding the school bus endorsement are \$65 per hour, and are anticipated to be minimal. The fees would be paid from the Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Division's base budget, which consists of Road Use Tax Fund and Primary Road Fund moneys.

Fuel Tax Reimbursements

The fiscal impact associated with fuel tax reimbursements for taxicabs and buses cannot be determined, since the number of refunds that will be submitted is unknown.

Sources

Department of Transportation
Department of Education
Department of Revenue

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

February 14, 2005

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.
